VIM - Vi IMproved

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Introduction

- "Emacs is a hideous monstrosity, but a functional one. On the other hand, vi is a masterpiece of elegance. Sort of like a Swiss Army knife versus a rapier." --The Cult of vi

History of vi

- vi was originally written by Bill Joy in 1976 while at Berkeley
- Bill Joy is a co-founder of Sun Microsystems and creator of csh among many others
- vi is based off ex and ed, the orignal line editor for Unix written by Ken Thompson
- vi has many ports and clones
- VIM is a vi clone written by Bram Moolenaar that adds many advanced features
- VIM - Vi IMproved
- First public release was in 1991
- VIM is included with almost every Linux distribution and shipped with every copy of Mac OS X.
- Also has gui version called gVim

VIM Basics

- VIM is a modal editor
- Three basic modes of operation: insert, visual, command
- By default, VIM is run in command mode. Each mode is accessed by pressing a key and ESC returns to command mode
- To insert text type i
- Visual mode allows you to highlight text v
- Type vi or vim in the shell to start
- Type vimtutor on command line

- User manual `:help`
- Even will explain the meaning of life `:help 42`
- Edit file `vi file.txt`, Save file `:w`
- To quit type `:q`
- Editing multiple files (buffers) `vi file1 file2`
- Switch between buffers `:next`, `:prev`, `:ls`

Editing

- vi GoogleScholar.php
- To move around use the cursor keys or the "home row"

```
   k
h     l
   j
```

- `0` `$` move to beginning and end of the line
- `C-f` `C-b` page up and down
- `12g` `:12<Enter>` go to a line
- `gg` `G` Move to top and bottom of file

Cut and Paste

- VIM adds mode called `visual` mode
- In command mode type `v` to select regions of text
- Copy `y` Paste `p` or `yy` copy whole line
- `x` to delete char under cursor
- `dw` `dd` delete entire word and delete line
- `cw` `c$` change word and change to end of line
- `D` delete to end of line

Useful Feature

- Search for words `/` or `?` search from end of file

- Indent block of text `>`
- `u` undo
- `:sh` drop to shell
- `:!` run command
- `:w !php -l` check syntax
- `:r` read in file

Viewports

- VIM supports multiple viewports
- `:sp` will split the current window into two
- `:vsp` vertical split current window
- `Ctrl-w j` jump down, `Ctrl-w k` jump up, etc.
- `Ctrl-w _` will expand current window, `Ctrl-w =` reset

Example Custom Settings

- No tabs! `:set expandtab`
- Set the tabstop and shift width `:set ts=4`, `:set sw=4`
- Change background scheme `:set bg=dark` or `:set bg=light`
- Show line numbers `:set number`
- Show line and column number of cursor `:set ruler`
- Show matching bracket/parenthesis `:set showmatch`
- Syntax highlighting `:syntax on`
- Automatic indentation `:set ai`
- Auto-completion `Ctl-p`
- Insert repeated characters `80-a - ESC-Enter`

Resources

- VIM - http://www.vim.org
- Nice VIM cheat sheets http://www.viemu.com/a_vi_vim_graphical_cheat_sheet_tutorial.html